

3 wherein the request to provide data includes address and control
4 information.

5 190. The memory system of one of claim 184 wherein the request
6 to provide data includes N bits of information and the bus includes
7 M number of signal lines wherein M is substantially less than N.--

REMARKS

This Amendment seeks to place this application in condition for allowance. Several of the pending claims have been amended in order to more fully and/or definitely claim Applicants' invention. New claims have been added in order to more fully protect Applicants' invention. Terminal Disclaimers are attached hereto to address the Examiner's concern of obviousness-type double patenting. The specification has been amended to identify the continuation or related U.S. application data. Finally, the drawings have been amended to more fully illustrate the features of the claimed invention (See, 37 CFR §1.83(a)) and the specification has been amended to correspond to new Figure 16. No new matter has been added.

OFFICE ACTION

In the Office Action dated May 27, 1999, claims 151-167 and 172 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in light U.S. Patent 5,657,481 and co-pending application 09/196,200. Claims 161, 164, and 165 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph. Finally, claims 168-171 were objected to because these claims depend on a rejected claim. The rejections will be addressed in the order presented in the Office Action.

35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd PARAGRAPH

Several of the pending claims have been amended in order to more fully and/or definitely claim Applicants' invention. Applicants have amended claims 161, 164, 165 and 167 to address the Examiner's concern regarding "set register request." Applicants have amended the claims such that the phrase "set register request" is now "control register access". (See, e.g., page 23, line 12 to page 24, line 2).

NONSTATUTORY DOUBLE PATENTING

To address the concern regarding double patenting in light of U.S. Patent 5,657,481 and co-pending Application No. 09/196,200 and in an effort to expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicants submit herewith two (2) Terminal Disclaimers executed by

the attorney of record in this application. The first Terminal Disclaimer is submitted to obviate the double patenting rejection over U.S. Patent 5,657,481. The second Terminal Disclaimer is submitted to obviate the provisional double patenting rejection over pending Application No. 09/196,200. Applicants believe that these Terminal Disclaimers comply fully with the relevant parts of 37 CFR § 1.321.

NEWLY SUBMITTED CLAIMS

The new claims submitted in this Amendment have been added to more definitely and fully protect Applicants' invention. No new matter has been added.

The newly submitted claims are believed to be fully supported by the specification as originally filed. In this regard, see, for example: Figures 2 and 10-13; page 14, line 3 to page 15, line 2; page 15, lines 18 to page 16, line 7; page 20, line 20 to page 21, line 20; page 23, line 6 to page 24, line 2; page 46, line 19 to page 48, line 17; and page 53, line 23 to page 59, line 2.

AMENDMENT TO SPECIFICATION

Applicants have amended the specification to correct an obvious typographical error. Moreover, the specification has been amended to correspond to new Figure 16 -- as is discussed immediately below. Finally, Applicants have amended the

specification, on page 1, line 8, to reflect the related continuation/divisional U.S. application data. No new matter has been added.

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

New Figure 16, attached hereto, is added to illustrate, among other things, identification register 171 and access-time register(s) 173. Figure 16 illustrates one embodiment of the internal registers within each device illustrated in Figure 2. Support may be found in the specification at page 14, lines 3-21 and page 53 lines 4-21. No new matter has been added.

The specification has been amended to correspond to new Figure 16. No new matter has been added.

By way of note, the amendment to the drawings and the corresponding amendment of the specification is similar to the amendment made in the application leading to U.S. Patent 5,841,580. The '580 patent is the parent of the instant application.

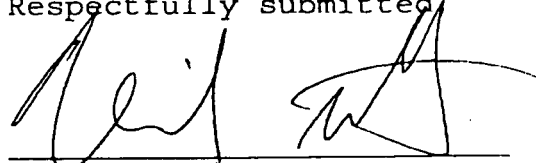
CONCLUSION

Applicants request entry of the foregoing amendment prior to examination of this application. Applicants submit that all of the claims present patentable subject matter which definitely set forth the novel and unobvious features of Applicants' invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all of the claims.

It is noted that should a telephone interview expedite the prosecution in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact Neil Steinberg at 703-787-9636.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil A. Steinberg', written over a horizontal line.

Neil A. Steinberg
Reg. No. 34,735
703-787-9636

Date: June 11, 1999